TED W. LIEU 33RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, VC 20515—0533

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April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro Chair House Committee on Appropriations H-307 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations H-307 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for Santa Monica's Behavioral Health Center in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Santa Monica, CA located at 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

This funding would support the implementation of new initiatives to address the local behavioral health needs of vulnerable residents. As the City works to establish long-term alternative responses to behavioral health calls for service, there is an immediate need for an appropriate and cost-effective around-the-clock response, including access to safe temporary housing and stabilizing care. To this end, the City is exploring the feasibility of converting an existing City-owned facility to accommodate 24/7 intakes from first responders and local emergency rooms while additional solutions to behavioral health issues are under development. While the long-term behavioral health strategy would serve various vulnerable Santa Monica populations, the first phase 24/7 center would have an initial focus on people experiencing homelessness. It would serve as a safe alternative for first responders to drop-off people who could benefit from behavioral health care and do not meet the level of crisis to require emergency rooms, psychiatric urgent cares, or jail.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Ted W. Lieu

Member of Congress

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